

**APPENDIX E.4**

**IDNR Listing of Indiana Special Streams**

## State Natural and Scenic River Segments

(Source: Indiana Department of Natural Resources, 1994, Rev. 1996)

<u>River</u>	<u>Counties</u>	<u>Quad Maps</u>	<u>Boundaries</u>
BIG PINE CREEK* (10.0 miles) (Studied 1980)	Warren	Williamsport, Pine Village	Rocky Ford (r.m. 13.8) to CR 131 (r.m. 3.75)
BIG WALNUT CREEK (10.6 miles)	Putnam	North Salem, Roachdale	Hendricks-Putnam Co. Line (r.m. 43.7) to SR 36 (r.m. 33.1)
BLUE RIVER (45.5 miles) (Designated 1978)	Crawford, Harrison, Washington	Fredericksburg, Milltown, Corydon, W., Leavenworth	US 150 in Fredericksburg (r.m. 57.0) to SR 462 (r.m. 11.5)
CEDAR CREEK (13.7 miles) (Designated 1976)	Allen, Dekalb	Garrett, Auburn, Huntertown	DeKalb CR 68 (r.m. 13.7) to St. Joseph River (r.m. 0.0)
SAND CREEK* (12.1 miles)	Decatur, Jennings	Butlerville, Westport	Westport Covered Bridge (r.m. 33.2) to Brewersville Rd. (r.m. 21.1)
S. BR. ELKHART* RIVER (13.6 miles) (Studied 1982)	Noble	Albion, Ligonier, Merriam	CR 100N (r.m. 14.2) to US 6 (r.m. 0.6)
SUGAR CREEK* (50.1 miles) (Studied 1977**)	Montgomery, Parke	Montezuma, Alamo Kingman, Wallace New Market, Crawfordsville	Darlington Covered Bridge (r.m. 50.1) to Wabash River (r.m. 0.0)
TIPPECANOE RIVER* (15.9 miles)	Kosciusko, Marshall	Mentone, Bourbon Atwood, Burket	Kosciusko CR 700W (r.m. 139.9) to the mouth of Moores Ditch (r.m. 123.0)
WHITEWATER RIVER* (28.4 miles) (Studied 1979)	Franklin	Metamora, Brookville, Whitecomb, Cedar Grove	Laurel Feeder Dam (r.m. 45.4) to New Trenton Bridge (r.m. 17.1)
WILDCAT CREEK (48.5 miles) (Designated 1980)	Carroll, Tippecanoe	Lafayette E., Pymont, Rossville, Burlington	SR 29 (r.m. 43.1 to Eisenhower Rd. (r.m. 4.8) and on the South Fork, SR 38 (r.m. 10.2) to the North Fork, (r.m. 0.0)

\* These stream segments qualify for classification as a State Natural & Scenic River Segment. However, they have not yet been officially classified as such.

\*\* The Montgomery County segment has recently been re-studied.

## **INDIANA NATURAL AND SCENIC RIVERS LIST**

A detailed river segment list and map are attached to the following river summaries.

### **BIG PINE CREEK**

A 10 1/2-mile segment of Big Pine Creek in Warren County (from Rocky Ford, near Rainsville, downstream to County Road 131) qualifies for State Natural and Scenic River designation.

Big Pine Creek is Indiana's premier whitewater creek during high spring water levels and is popular with canoeists and kayakers from Indiana and Illinois. Due to unreliable water levels for canoeing throughout warm weather, commercial canoes are not available for use on the creek.

The Department of Environmental Management has designated the Big Pine Creek segment and some of its headwaters "for exceptional use" due to outstanding quality.

### **BIG WALNUT CREEK**

Slightly more than 10 1/2 miles of Big Walnut Creek in Putnam County (from the county line to the SR 36 bridge) rate as natural as any segment on the DNR's Natural and Scenic Rivers list. The lower part of the segment flows by two state dedicated nature preserves (Hall's Woods and Big Walnut) which the DNR and The Nature Conservancy have cooperated to acquire from a willing seller.

Big Walnut Creek is lightly used by fishermen and canoeists. Commercial canoes are not available for use on the State Natural and Scenic River segment due to unreliable water levels throughout warm weather.

### **BLUE RIVER**

The State Natural and Scenic River segment of Blue River designated in 1978 begins at river mile 57 (Fredericksburg) and runs to river mile 11 1/2 (just upstream of the SR 462 bridge). The DNR owns much of the lower 25 miles of the river corridor and manages its property to enhance the natural integrity of the river. The lower 5 1/2 miles of the river itself are part of the Cannelton Pool of the Ohio River.

The major canoe livery using the river provides about 15,000 canoe trips on the river annually, primarily between river mile 40 (Totten Ford Bridge) and river mile 20 (Rothrock Mill Public Access Site, the DNR's only access site in the State Natural and Scenic River segment). The river is also popular for fishing.

The state authorized Blue River Commission has zoning jurisdiction over the State Natural and Scenic River segment and has worked with the DNR in the conservation of the river since 1978. During that time the DNR, with some assistance from The Nature Conservancy, has also acquired nearly 6 miles of riverbank lands from willing sellers in the lower Natural and Scenic River segment. This will further assure protection of the natural integrity of Blue River.

The DEM has designated the State Natural and Scenic River segment of Blue River as "an outstanding state resource" to prevent water quality degradation and has designated the segment and much of its headwaters "for exceptional use" due to exceptional quality.

### **CEDAR CREEK**

Cedar Creek, 13.7 miles from DeKalb County Road 68 to the confluence with the St. Joseph River in Allen County was designated a State Natural and Scenic River in 1976. The Nature Conservancy has acquired one conservation easement along the creek. Part of the Izaak Walton League's property along the creek has been designated by the state as Rodenbeck Nature Preserve.

The Allen County Parks and Recreation Board has acquired and developed two public access sites along the creek using Land and Water Conservation Funds administered by the DNR. Cedar Creek is used by fishermen and canoeists.

The Cedar Creek Wildlife Project, Fort Wayne Chapter of the Izaak Walton League, and the Cedar Creek Preservation Foundation work with the DNR in the conservation of Cedar Creek.

The DEM has designated the State Natural and Scenic River segment of Cedar Creek as "an outstanding state resource" to prevent water quality degradation.

### **SAND CREEK**

A 12.1-mile segment of Sand Creek, from the Westpost Covered Bridge in Jennings County (river mile 33.2) to Brewersville Road in Decatur County (river mile 21.1) qualifies as a State Natural and Scenic River. Sand Creek is notable for its karst corridor.

It is lightly used by fishermen and canoeists. Commercial canoes are not available for use on the segment due to unreliable water levels throughout warm weather.

### **SOUTH BRANCH OF ELKHART RIVER**

Nearly 14 miles of the South Branch of the Elkhart River, between Noble County Road 100 North and the U.S. 6 bridge, qualifies as a State Natural and Scenic River. It flows through the largest contiguous wetlands remaining in the state, including the DNR's Mallard Roost Wetlands Conservation Area. In the upstream portion of the segment, the river flows through the state designated Bender Woods Nature Preserve, owned by Acres Inc.

The South Branch of Elkhart River is used by fishermen and waterfowl hunters, and the DNR has developed four public access sites along the river. Commercial canoes are not available for use on the river.

### **SUGAR CREEK**

Over 50 miles of Sugar Creek, from the Darlington Covered Bridge in Montgomery County downstream to the confluence with the Wabash River in Parke County, qualify as a State Natural and Scenic River. The creek flows past a community park in Darlington, a city park in Crawfordsville, Pine Hills Nature Preserve (and National Natural Landmark), and Shades and Turkey Run State Parks.

Six public access sites, four acquired and developed by the DNR, are available along the creek. Two major commercial canoe liveries provide about 20,000 trips on Sugar Creek annually, primarily between Crawfordsville and Turkey Run State Park. The creek is also popular with fishermen.

The Friends of Sugar Creek works with the DNR the conservation of Sugar Creek and its tributaries.

### **TIPPECANOE RIVER**

Almost 16 miles of the Tippecanoe River, from Kosciusko County Road 700 West to the mouth of Moores Ditch in Marshall County, qualify as a State Natural and Scenic River.

The upper part of the segment flows through forested wetlands and is seldom used by recreationists. The lower part of the segment is popular with fishermen, and commercial canoes are available. A Kosciusko County Historical Society rest park provides river access near Warsaw, and the DNR has developed two public access sites along the Tippecanoe River segment.

### **WHITEWATER RIVER**

A 28.3-mile segment of the West Fork and Main Stem of the Whitewater River in Franklin County, from the Laurel Feeder Dam (river mile 45.4) to the New Trenton Bridge (river mile 17.1.), qualifies as a State Natural and Scenic River. The DNR's Whitewater Canal State Historic Site owns land adjacent to the river in several sites between its Laurel Feeder Dam Public Access Site and Brookville. Eight miles of the former towpath and an abandoned rail line along the canal and near the river are planned for development as a recreational trail. Two major canoe liveries provide about 20,000 trips on the river annually. The river is also popular with fishermen.

The Franklin County Area Plan Commission's White-water River Advisory Board has worked with the DNR in the conservation of the river since 1979.

### **WILDCAT CREEK**

The State Natural and Scenic River segments of Wildcat Creek total 48.5 miles, extending from Burlington to Tippecanoe County's Eisenhower Road Bridge on the North Fork, and from Dayton on the South Fork to the confluence with the North Fork. The Wildcat was designated in 1980.

The DNR has developed four access sites, including a Public Fishing Area and a county park along the creek. The Tippecanoe County Parks and Recreation Board manages the county park through an agreement with the DNR.

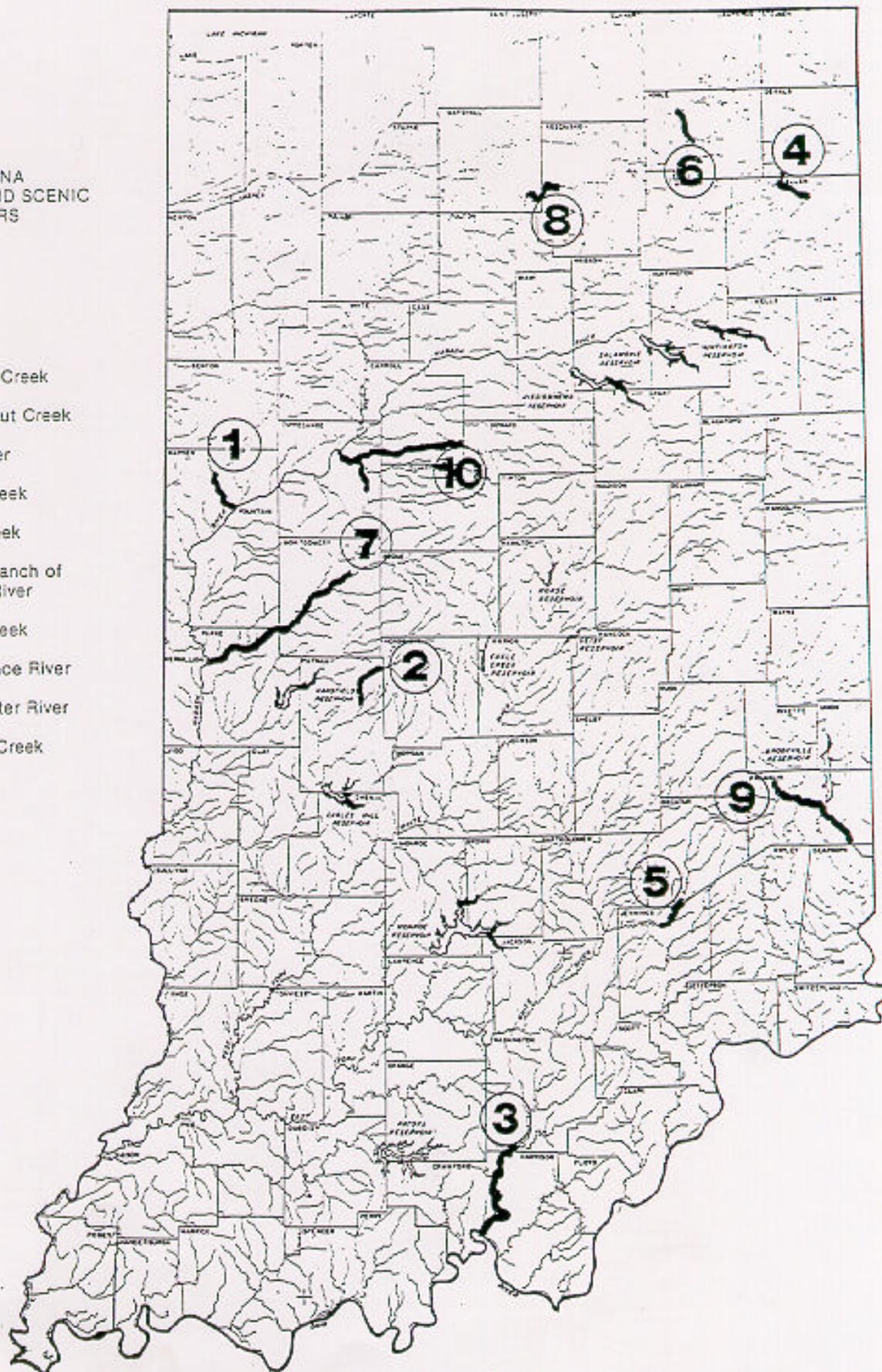
Recreationists use the creek for canoeing, fishing, and tubing. The only commercial canoe livery along the creek provides about 2,000 trips on the creek annually, primarily on the lower several miles of the State Natural and Scenic River segment of the North Fork.

The Wildcat Creek Advisory Group and the Carroll County and Tippecanoe County Area Plan Commissions have worked with the DNR in the conservation of the creek since 1980.

The DEM has designated the State Natural and Scenic River segments of Wildcat Creek as "an outstanding state resource" to prevent water quality degradation.

INDIANA  
NATURAL AND SCENIC  
RIVERS

- 1) Big Pine Creek
- 2) Big Walnut Creek
- 3) Blue River
- 4) Cedar Creek
- 5) Sand Creek
- 6) South Branch of Elkhart River
- 7) Sugar Creek
- 8) Tippecance River
- 9) Whitewater River
- 10) Wildcat Creek



## **Outstanding Rivers:**

The Department has prepared a roster of streams in the State which have particular environmental or aesthetic value. The roster was printed as a nonrule policy document in the Indiana Register, Volume 16, Number 6, (16 IR 1677) on March 1, 1993 under the title "Natural Resources Commission, Information Bulletin #4, Outstanding Rivers List for Indiana". For additional information regarding the roster contact:

Division of Outdoor Recreation  
Room W271  
402 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Telephone: (317) 232-4070

The following table is a synopsis of the roster printed in the Indiana Register. In the event of a conflict, the information in the Register has primacy.

### Outstanding Rivers

Stream	County(s)	Segment
Bear Creek	Fountain	From CR 250 W to its confluence with the Wabash River
Big Blue River	Johnson Rush Shelby	From its confluence with the Flatrock River to Carthage
Big Creek	Jefferson	From the east side of the Jefferson Military Reservation boundary to its confluence with Graham Creek
Big Pine Creek	Warren	From SR 18 to its confluence with the Wabash River
Big Walnut Creek	Putnam	From the Hendricks-Putnam county Line to Greencastle
Black River	Posey	From its confluence with Higginbotham Ditch to its confluence with the Wabash River
Blue River	Crawford Harrison Washington	From its confluence with the Middle Fork Blue River to its confluence with the Ohio River
Buck Creek	Harrison	From its headwaters to its confluence with the Ohio River
Cedar Creek	Allen DeKalb	From DeKalb County Road 68 to its confluence with the St. Joseph River
Clifty Creek	Montgomery	From its headwaters to its confluence the Indian Creek
Cypress Slough	Posey	From its confluence with Castlebury Creek to the Southwind Maritime Center
Deep River	Lake Porter	From 1 mile south of US 30 to its confluence with the Little Calumet River
Driftwood River	Bartholomew	From the Atterbury Fish and Wildlife Area to Columbus
East Arm Little Calumet River	Porter	From CR 600 E to SR 249
East Fork White River	Bartholomew Daviess Dubois Jackson Lawrence Martin Pike	From Columbus to its confluence with the West Fork White River
Eel River	Miami Wabash	From South Whitley to Logansport
Elkhart River	Elkhart Noble	From SR 13 to Island Park in Elkhart
Fall Creek	Warren	From US 41 to its confluence with Big Pine Creek

### Outstanding Rivers

Stream	County(s)	Segment
Fawn River	LaGrange Steuben	From Nevada Mills to the Indiana-Michigan state line and from the Indiana-Michigan state line to the Indiana-Michigan state line
Fish Creek	Dekalb Steuben	From the Indiana-Ohio state line to the Indiana-Ohio state line
Flatrock River	Bartholomew Shelby	From SR 9 to its confluence with the East Fork White River
Fourteen-Mile Creek	Clark	From its confluence with the East Fork and the West Fork to its confluence with the Ohio River
Graham Creek	Jefferson Jennings Ripley	From New Marion to its confluence with Big Creek
Indian Creek	Harrison	From the Floyd-Harrison county line to its confluence with the Ohio River
Indian Creek	Montgomery	From CR 475 W to its confluence with Sugar Creek
Indian-Kentuck Creek	Jefferson Ripley	From its confluence with Vestal Branch to its confluence with the Ohio River
Iroquois River	Newton	From SR 16 to the Indiana-Illinois state line
Kankakee River	LaPorte Newton Porter	From the upstream boundary of the Kingsbury Fish and Wildlife Area through the LaSalle Fish and Wildlife Area to the Indiana-Illinois state line
Kilmore Creek	Clinton	From US 421 to its confluence with South Fork Wildcat Creek
Laughery Creek	Dearborn Ohio Ripley	From its source just east of Morris in Ripley County to its confluence with the Ohio River
Little Blue River	Crawford	From English to its confluence with the Ohio River
Little Creek	Jefferson	From Kent to Big Creek
Little Indian Creek	Harrison	From Pfrimmer Church to its confluence with Indian Creek
Little Mosquito Creek	Harrison	From its headwaters to its confluence with Mosquito Creek
Little Pine Creek	Warren	From Bridge SW of Green Hill to its confluence with the Wabash River
Little River	Allen Huntington	From its source to its confluence with the Wabash River
Lost River	Martin Orange	From Potato Road to its confluence with the East Fork White River
Middle Fork Wildcat Creek	Clinton Tippecanoe	From SR 26 at Edna Mills to its confluence with South Fork Wildcat Creek
Mississinewa River	Miami	From Mississinewa Reservoir to its confluence with the Wabash River

### Outstanding Rivers

Stream	County(s)	Segment
Mosquito Creek	Harrison	From Buena Vista to its confluence with the Ohio River
Mud Pine Creek	Warren	From SR 352 to its confluence with Big Pine Creek
Muscatatuck River	Jackson Jennings Scott Washington	From its confluence with Graham Creek and Big Creek to its confluence with the East Fork White River
Oil Creek	Perry	From St. Croix to its confluence with the Ohio River
Otter Creek	Jennings Ripley	From the covered bridge north of Holton to its confluence with the Vernon Fork Muscatatuck River
Patoka River	Dubois Gibson Pike	From Patoka Reservoir to its confluence with the Wabash River
Pigeon River	LaGrange	From SR 327 to the Indian-Michigan state line
Rattlesnake Creek	Fountain	From CR 350 W to its confluence with Bear Creek
Rattlesnake Creek	Parke	From CR 400/450 S to its confluence with Sugar Creek
Roaring Creek	Parke	From 1 mile upstream of SR 41 to its confluence with Sugar Creek
Sand Creek	Bartholomew Decatur Jackson Jennings	From its confluence with Cobbs Fork to its confluence with the East Fork White River
South Branch Elkhart River	Noble	From CR 100 N to US 6
South Fork Blue River	Washington	From SR 135 to its confluence with Blue River
South Fork Wildcat Creek	Clinton Tippecanoe	From US 421 to its confluence with Wildcat Creek
Stinking Fork	Crawford	From its headwaters to its confluence with Little Blue River
Sugar Creek	Johnson Shelby	Within Johnson and Shelby Counties
Sugar Creek	Montgomery Parke	From the Darlington covered bridge to its confluence with the Wabash River
Sugar Mill Creek	Fountain Parke	From Wallace to its confluence with Sugar Creek
Tippecanoe River	Carroll Fulton Kosciusko Marshall Pulaski Tippecanoe White	From its source, Lake Tippecanoe, to Norway and from Oakdale Dam to its confluence with the Wabash River

**Outstanding Rivers**

<b>Stream</b>	<b>County(s)</b>	<b>Segment</b>
Turkey Fork	Crawford	From I-64 to its confluence with the Little Blue River
Vernon Fork Muscatatuck River	Jackson Jennings	From Zenas to its confluence with the Muscatatuck River
Wabash River	Adams Allen Carroll Cass Fountain Gibson Huntington Jay Knox Miami Parke Posey Sullivan Tippecanoe Vermillion Vigo Wabash Warren Wells	From the Indiana-Ohio state line to its confluence with the Ohio River including the Little River and the portage between the Little River and the Maumee River
West Branch Mosquito Creek	Harrison	From its headwaters to its confluence with Mosquito Creek
West Fork White River	Daviess Delaware Gibson Greene Hamilton Knox Madison Marion Morgan Owen Randolph	From Farmland to its confluence with the Wabash River
Whitewater River	Dearborn Fayette Franklin Wayne	From Cambridge City to the Indiana-Ohio state line west of Harrison, Ohio
Wildcat Creek	Carroll Tippecanoe	From SR 29 to its confluence with the Wabash River